**Meeting Social and Emotional Needs to Maximize Academic Growth in Gifted Students**

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For gifted and talented students to thrive, we have to meet both the academic needs and their social/emotional needs. This can be a daunting task with so many competing priorities in our current educational systems. Choosing instructional strategies and methods of differentiation that specifically relate to gifted students' social/emotional characteristics can be a practical way to tackle this challenge. We'll discuss the importance of addressing the whole child's needs, review the social/emotional and academic needs of gifted children, and determine practical strategies to address the needs.